



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, July 10, 2007
6:00 p.m.
City Hall Conference Room
715 Princess Anne Street

CALL TO ORDER

TOPICS

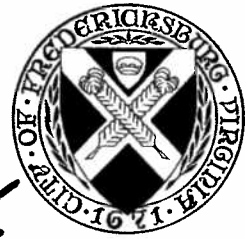
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Options: Upgrade versus Consolidation

Public Works Director Doug Fawcett, assisted by Spotsylvania Utilities Director Tim Slaydon, will lead the Council in a discussion of the upgrade and consolidation options. At this juncture, the staff favors the "Consolidate, But Not Yet" Option in the face of required upgrades to meet the 2011 Department of Environmental Quality nitrogen and phosphorous effluent limitations. "Consolidate, But Not Yet" Option appears to be the best for both localities. On June 26, the Spotsylvania Board of Supervisors authorized the county staff to initiate negotiations with the City for the consolidation of wastewater treatment operations agreement. Staff will be seeking Council concurrence with this approach. (See attached memo from Director Fawcett dated July 3.)

ADJOURNMENT

Memorandum

To: Phillip L. Rodenberg, City Manager
From: Doug Fawcett, Director of Public Works
Date: July 3, 2007
Subject: Wastewater Treatment Options



Doug Fawcett

At the July 10 City Council work session, I will provide a progress report on recent efforts to determine the City's best long term wastewater treatment strategy.

As I informed the Council briefly at the June 26 work session, staff and consulting engineers for both the City and Spotsylvania County have been studying various options for several months. These efforts have resulted in consultants' reports containing analysis of both the operational implications and capital costs of two main approaches (with each of these options having certain variations). These approaches are:

- The City and Spotsylvania County would each independently upgrade and improve its respective wastewater treatment facility (in the case of the County, this is the FMC plant, just downstream of the City's plant) to meet new environmental requirements and would each continue to operate its plant for the long term future.
- The City and County would jointly expand, upgrade and otherwise improve the County's FMC plant with the intent of closing the City's plant. Under this plan, all wastewater generated in the City and certain adjacent areas of the County would be transmitted to the FMC plant for treatment. (Currently, all of this wastewater flows into the headworks of the City plant with some of the flow being pumped into the City plant for treatment and the remainder of the flow being pumped to FMC for treatment.)

As I briefly reported on June 26, during review and discussion of the data that have been generated, a third option (or, more accurately, a variation of the second option listed above) has surfaced. Under this option, the FMC plant would eventually be expanded and upgraded to serve as the single plant for both City and County wastewater flows, but this expansion would occur at a mutually agreeable time, at least several years (and perhaps as many as 10-15 years) in the future. During the interim period, both plants would continue to operate, with the City and County each making certain capital improvements to its respective plant. These improvements would be much less extensive and, thus, require a significantly lower capital investment in the immediate future than a consolidation of the plants in the short term would require. This third option is the one that I described as the "consolidate, but not yet" option.

If this option is chosen, a decision will also need to be made related to the operation of the City plant during the interim period. There are a number of perceived advantages of having both plants operated by a single entity. Thus, City and County staff are also studying the

Phillip L. Rodenberg, City Manager
Wastewater Treatment Options
July 3, 2007

desirability of the County assuming operational responsibility and control of the City plant at some mutually agreed future date.

Obviously, these are complex issues with significant long term implications for the City (and the County). Every effort is being made to structure the presentation that will be made on July 10 to present the issues in a systematic and understandable manner. The presentation will also be structured to permit significant discussion and Q/A time during the work session.